

MAR 13 2015

## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POSITION COUNT CEILINGS FOR  
PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY POSITIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH  
AND A PROHIBITION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "UNAUTHORIZED  
POSITIONS".

1 WHEREAS, under present practice, the General Appropriations  
2 Act and Supplemental Appropriations Act authorize "ceilings", or  
3 maximum counts, for permanent positions in the various executive  
4 departments; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Acts do not set similar ceilings for temporary  
7 positions; and

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9 WHEREAS, statutes also exempt numerous positions from  
10 having to be established under the General Appropriations Act or  
11 Supplemental Appropriations Act, resulting in the loss of  
12 legislative discretion over the budget for such "unauthorized  
13 positions"; and

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15 WHEREAS, the Senate finds that responsible budget and  
16 fiscal policy requires the exertion of more legislative control  
17 over temporary position ceilings and unauthorized positions; and

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19 WHEREAS, increased legislative control will strengthen  
20 oversight of state government appropriations, promote  
21 transparency in budgeting, and enhance awareness of estimated  
22 future spending needs and retiree benefit obligations; and

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24 WHEREAS, the Senate understands that the imposition of a  
25 stricter position count ceiling in the immediate future may not  
26 be possible because of the inadequacies of the Department of  
27 Budget and Finance's information technology system; and

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29 WHEREAS, nevertheless, the Senate finds that the Department  
30 should begin work towards implementation of a stricter position  
31 count ceiling in future executive budgets; now, therefore,

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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015,



1 that the Department of Budget and Finance is requested to  
2 propose legislation and a timetable to:

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4 (1) Set position count ceilings for permanent and  
5 temporary positions in the General Appropriations Act  
6 or Supplemental Appropriations Act; and  
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8 (2) Prohibit the establishment and funding of positions  
9 that are not authorized in the General Appropriations  
10 Act or Supplemental Appropriations Act, except when  
11 the establishment of the positions cannot await the  
12 legislative budget cycle; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Budget and  
15 Finance also is requested to provide an estimate of the cost to  
16 upgrade its information technology system to establish, collect,  
17 maintain, and update data on permanent and temporary position  
18 count ceilings in the General Appropriations Act and  
19 Supplemental Appropriations Act; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days  
22 before the convening of the Regular Session of 2016, the  
23 Department of Budget and Finance is requested to submit a report  
24 to this body with the proposed legislation, timetable, and  
25 estimated cost; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Finance.  
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OFFERED BY: 

